

A RIGHTEOUS MAN IS MEROIFUL TO HIS BEAST.

BY J. J. VANDERREE.

The Humane Journal for November 1893 has this to say about the doings of the Illinois Humane Society. While the World's Fair has for some months been the point upon which all eyes seemed focused, and it has appeared to the observer that to enhance the useful, the artistic, and the beautiful, was the object uppermost in the fertile mind. There was yet in and about our city, (Chicago.) people who enjoyed witnessing the sufferings of others, and who either allowed or perpetrated fiendish cruelty upon the dumb animals circumstances had placed within their power.

The busy world has an inkling of what the humane society is doing, but each day its officers find forcible reminders of the great necessity for its existence. The unhappiness and suffering existing in a large city, are to them a stern reality. While investigation often proves the cruelty practiced was mainly through carelessness or ignorance, yet often the perpetrator is a person of vicious disposition, to whom it is a pleasure to torment the helpless child or animal unfortunate enough to be in their possession.

A reprimand kindly administered in such a case is useless. Indeed it seems to arouse all the evil propensities that person possesses.

As a last resource the law is appealed to, and justice compels where humanity fails to gain for the helpless, their rightful due. Now I have no doubt but what some one will say, yes these worldly people that do such things are indeed cruel. So they are, but, has it ever occurred to you that some of the loudest professors of religion are guilty of just such things. Is it not a lamentable fact that right here in our America that boasts of its Christianity are to be found men who as it seems care not to control their temper when it comes to deal with the ones who were not endowed with the power of speech as we are. But men in their anger many times uncalled for and in their passion will seize on most any thing, a club, a pitchfork, a stone or in fact any thing

else that will answer their purpose where with to inflict punishment. Truly the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel. Prov. xii, 10.

But had these animals the power to complain as we have it would put a different phase on the whole matter. Men ought to cultivate their temper, (and let me say right here women too) and ere long they would no doubt be able to control themselves when anything happens. Brethren and sisters, ye followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene, one who would not even break a bruised reed. Isa. xlii, 3, did you ever notice how very little there is said and written upon this subject. It does seem to me a little more preaching upon this subject by God's ministers, a little more teaching by fathers and mothers at home, a little more reading of humane books and papers would certainly have its tendency for good. Try it brethren and sisters and see how it will work and the Lord will abundantly reward you for your labor. A little more writing upon this subject would do no harm. Take hold of this matter and hold fast to that which is good. 1 Thess. v, 21. For surely a righteous man is merciful to his beast. Brethren and Sisters it is not too late to raise your voice and pen in defence of the helpless.

Cornell, Ill.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR GOD DURING THE YEAR 1894.

BY E. C. STILLWELL.

We should remember that poverty and ignorance are the mother and father of crime; and in order to overcome this, we should each one of us, try to do some of the work that we so often ask God to do for us. Man's eternity is God's opportunity. If we do all in our power, God will do his best, and the great victory will be won. When Christian people—the men and women who profess to have the Lord Jesus Christ—will see their duty and have the courage to do it, the world will be made bright, wholesome and brotherly. Then starvation and oppression will be banished and corruption will be swept from our borders.

The generosity which builds libraries and art galleries; the charity which

endows hospitals and retreats; the general sympathy with distress, and the readiness to give for all worthy objects, these enable qualities of aggregate character, afford us a glimpse of what might be done if moral obligations were more intensely realized.

If a Salvation Army woman can lift up a staggering, fallen sister, with willing hands hold her up to the throne of grace, and with tender loving words of kindness bring back the long forgotten blush of shame, thus placing a lost soul into the path of righteousness why can not a Progressive do the same? If one can do this why not many? Why not you, my brother? "Be ye perfect," rings from the hill top. "Greater things than these shall ye do!" Echoes through the valley.

Drunkenness and vice is raging on account of our neglect to do our duty. Too many sit in their drawing room and sigh over evils which they do not try to remedy. When we pray that evils may be rooted out let us not forget what we prayed for. Let us not with bowed heads cry, "Amen!" and then fall asleep. The responsibility for the sin, and for the starvation and want rests in part on those who could do the work of reform but will not. Selfish virtue fosters cruel vice.

While I am writing the word comes to me that this morning there were five-hundred tramps driven out of Ottumwa, and are coming west. Great start for the beginning of the New Year! Think of this beautiful America with the bountiful harvest that God has given us, where thousands upon thousands of dollars worth of grain is distilled into liquor every year to poison the minds of the noble sons of America; and think that five hundred poor men are driven from one small city. What must be the condition of the rum governed cities from the east to the west? Thousands of men who might be useful and shining lights in society are wandering through this world without a friend and without a home, and the last spark of hope may have long since died away.

Oh, brethren and sisters in Christ, let us all, during the coming year, stand firm on the promises. Let us keep lit the torch of Gospel invitation and hold it high so it may shine from